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February 11, 2008

Edward Cardinal Egan
Archdiocese of New York
1011 First Avenue
New York, New York 10022-4134

Dear Cardinal Egan:

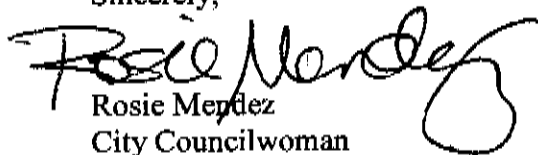
As a former parishioner of St. Brigid's Church, I write in strong support of the preservation of this beautiful and historic house of worship. I humbly ask the Archdiocese not to demolish this sanctuary that means so much to me and so many past and current residents of the Lower East Side and to the families of Irish immigrants throughout the New York region.

I understand and am very grateful that you are committed to using the land on which St. Brigid's sits for a purpose related to our faith and/or a current program sponsored by the Archdiocese. I am also aware that lease for Cabrini Nursing Home, which is in operation a few blocks away, will soon be expiring and that the Nursing Home is in need of a new, larger and more appropriately designed facility. Clearly there is great logic in trying to use the St. Brigid's site for the relocation of the much needed nursing home.

I would support this reuse of the land, if a way could be found to retain the integrity of St. Brigid's structure while also building a nursing home at the site. I have been informed that the Committee to Save St. Brigid's commissioned a study by the well-respected real estate firm Massey Knakal, which concludes that both uses could be accommodated on the site. The Committee also assures me that they have access to funds that would defray the cost of such preservation and relieve the Archdiocese of any financial consequences in restoration and preservation of this historic church. If that solution is not possible, I reiterate my support for the preservation of the church.

Please be assured that I am committed to working with the Archdiocese on finding a suitable new location for the Cabrini Nursing Home. I thank you for your attention to this matter and pray that you will hear our plea.

Sincerely,


Rosie Mendez
City Councilwoman

